

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An attaching structural unit used for installing a quadrangular solar-battery module onto a slanted roof, the attaching structural unit comprising

a module frame attached to the solar-battery module;

the module frame comprising a pair of first and second elongated frame elements opposed to each other and a pair of third and fourth elongated frame elements opposed to each other, wherein:

each of the third and fourth frame elements respectively includes a water-leakage preventive edges protruding outward and extending longitudinally from each of the frame elements;

the first frame element is a front-side frame element placed in the direction of an eaves side of the roof;

the second frame element is a rear-side frame element placed in the direction of a ridge side of the roof, the second frame element comprising a protruding hook which protrudes in a direction toward the eaves side of the roof, the protruding hook being configured to engage a securing member which protrudes in a second direction opposite the first direction;

the third frame element is a left-side frame element placed in the direction of a left side with respect to the slope of the roof;

a fourth frame element is a right-side frame element placed in the direction of a right side with respect to the slope of the roof,

the third and fourth frame elements each extend along the left and right sides of the frame substantially from the first frame member to the second frame member,

in the state that the module frame is attached the solar-battery module to form a module unit and a plurality of the module units are placed on the roof adjacent to one another or adjacent to roof-forming members;

the rear-side frame element in one module unit is placed under the front-side frame element of another module unit or under a roof-forming member adjacent to said one module unit in an overlapped manner,

the water-leakage preventive edge in the left-side frame element in one module unit is under or on the water-leakage preventive edge in the right-side frame element of another module unit or the right-side end in a roof-forming member adjacent to said one module unit in an overlapped manner, and

the water-leakage preventive edge in the right-side frame element in one module unit is on or under the water-leakage preventive edge in the left-side frame element of another module unit or the left-side end in a roof-forming member adjacent to said one module unit in an overlapped manner.

2. (CANCELLED)

3. (Previously Presented) The attaching structural unit of claim 1, wherein the front-side frame element has a front hook on its lower surface, and the rear-side frame element has a rear hook on its upper surface which can be engaged with the front hook in another module unit.

4. (Currently Amended) The attaching structural unit of claim 3, wherein;

~~a the securing member is configured to secure for securing the module frame onto a beam on the roof is further provided and the rear side frame is further provided with a protruding hook that protrudes forward on its lower surface,~~

the securing member being provided with a plurality of securing metal tools, a front securing tool that can be engaged with the front hook in the front-side frame

element, and a rear securing tool that can be engaged with the protruding hook in the rear-side frame element,

the front securing tool being provided with hole sections through which the securing metal tools are inserted, so that the front securing tool is secured to the beam of the roof through the roof-forming member, and

the rear securing tool being provided with hole sections through which the securing metal tools are inserted, and being placed on the beam in an engaged state with the protruding hook of the rear-side frame element.

5. (Original) The attaching structural unit of claim 1, wherein the first frame element, second frame element, third frame element and fourth frame element are divided respectively, and are connected and assembled with small screws.

6. (Original) The attaching structural unit of claim 3, wherein the front hook is detachably attached to the front-side frame element from its front side by using small screws.

7. (Previously Presented) The attaching structural unit of claim 1, wherein the module frame is further provided with a decorative cover that is detachably attached to the front-side frame element.

8. (Original) The attaching structural unit of claim 1, wherein the module frame is further provided with a reinforcing member which is placed on the back face of the solar-battery module so as to connect the first frame element and the second frame element.

9. (Original) The attaching structural unit of claim 4, wherein the rear securing tool is formed to have a length shorter than the rear-side frame element.

10. (Original) The attaching structural unit of claim 1, wherein the module frame is further provided with a foamed resin member that is incorporated in a gap between the module frame and the solar-battery module.

11. (Original) A module unit, comprising a quadrangular solar-battery module and a module frame in the attaching structural unit of claim 1, to be attached to the solar-battery module.

12. (Original) The module unit of claim 11, which is provided with a back film with metal foil bonded to the rear surface of the solar-battery module.

13. (Previously Presented) A solar-battery structural unit, comprising:

a quadrangular solar-battery module;

a module frame to be attached to the solar-battery module to form a module unit;

and

a securing member used for securing the module unit on a beam on a roof,

wherein the module frame comprises:

a front-side elongated frame element to be placed in the direction of an eaves of a slanted roof;

a rear-side elongated frame element to be placed in the direction of a ridge of the roof;

a left-side elongated frame element to be placed in the direction of a left side with respect to the slope of the roof which has a water-leakage preventive edge protruding outward and extending longitudinally from the frame element; and

a right-side elongated frame element to be placed in the direction of a right side with respect to the slope of the roof which has a water-leakage preventive edge protruding outward and extending longitudinally from the frame element,

the left-side elongated frame element and the right-side elongated frame element each extend along the left and right sides of the frame substantially from the front-side elongated frame member to the rear-side elongated frame member,

wherein the front-side frame element is provided with a front hook on its lower surface, and

wherein the rear-side frame element is provided with a rear hook placed on its upper surface and located on the front hook of the front-side frame element of another module frame and engaged therewith in the front-to-rear direction, and a protruding hook protruding forward on the lower surface, and

wherein the left-side frame element and right-side frame element are respectively provided with a water-leakage preventive edge protruding outward and extending longitudinally from frame element, and

wherein the securing member includes a plurality of securing metal tools, a front securing tool for engaging with the front hook of the module frame in the front-to-rear direction, and a rear securing tool for engaging with the protruding hook of the module frame in the front-to-rear direction, and

wherein the front securing tool includes hole sections through which the securing metal tools are inserted, so that the front securing tool is secured to the beam of the roof through the roof-forming member, and

wherein the rear securing tool comprises hole sections through which the securing metal tools are inserted which is placed on the beam in an engaged state with the protruding hook of the rear-side frame element, and

wherein in the state that the module frame is attached the solar-battery module to form a module unit and a plurality the module units are placed on a roof adjacent to one another or adjacent to roof-forming members;

wherein the rear-side frame element in one module unit is placed under the front-side frame element of another module unit or a roof-forming member adjacent to said one module unit in an overlapped manner,

wherein the water-leakage preventive edge in the left-side frame element in one module unit is under or on the water-leakage preventive edge in the right-side frame element of another module unit or a right-side end in the roof-forming member in an overlapped manner, and

wherein the water-leakage preventive edge in the right-side frame element in one module unit is on or under the water-leakage preventive edge in the left-side frame element of another module unit or a left-side end in the roof-forming member in an overlapped manner.

14. (Original) An attaching method for the solar-battery structural unit of claim 13, comprising the steps of:

securing the front securing tool to the beam of the roof from above the roof-forming member with the securing metal tools;

engaging the rear securing tool with the protruding hook of the rear-side frame element,

engaging the front hook of the front-side frame element with the front securing tool, and

placing the rear securing tool on the beam of the roof, and securing thereon with the securing metal tools.

15. (Original) The attaching method of claim 14, wherein, in case where the module units are placed on a roof with a plurality of rows in the front-to-rear direction,

the protruding hook of the rear-side frame element in the module unit to be located in the direction of the ridge of the roof is engaged with the rear securing tool, the front hook of the front-side frame element in the same module unit is also engaged with the rear hook of the rear-side frame element in a module unit to be adjacent to the above module unit, and the above rear securing tool is placed on the beam of the roof and secured with the securing metal tools.

16. (Original) A removing method for a module unit attached on a roof by using the attaching method of claim 15 which comprises the steps of:

removing the front hook of the front-side frame element in a module unit to be exchanged,

pushing the module unit up toward so that at least the protruding hook of the rear-side frame element is separated from the rear securing tool, and

raising the front end of a module unit or roof-forming member adjacent to the above module unit, thereby detaching the module unit to be exchanged from the roof.

17. (Original) The removing method of claim 16 in which the front hook is detachably attached to the front-side frame element, and a module unit to be newly used is beforehand detached on its front hook, which is followed by inserting the new module unit into the position of removed module unit, engaging the protruding hook of the new module unit on the rear securing tool, re-attaching the front hook which is beforehand detached to the new module unit, and engaging the front hook with the front securing tool or the rear hook of the adjacent module unit.

18. (New) The attaching structural unit of claim 1, wherein the water-leakage preventive edges of the third and fourth frame elements are configured to allow drainage flow between the third and fourth frame elements in a direction from the ridge side of the roof to the eaves side of the roof.